

CLAIMS: What is claimed is:

1. An spray shield apparatus for shielding against spray from a sprinkler head of the type that is mounted atop a vertical riser and that when attached to said riser is disposed to deflect fluid sprayed thereon, said spray shield apparatus comprising:
 - (a) a semi-cylindrical body enclosed with a top end and an opposing bottom end, said bottom end being configured to engage said riser via friction fit thereby maintaining said spray shield substantially around said sprinkler head whereby said semi-cylindrical body and said top end will limit a spray from said sprinkler head to a predetermined area;
 - (b) friction fit means for attaching said spray shield apparatus to said riser without removing said sprinkler head, integrated within said bottom end and disposed to receive and engage said riser laterally with respect to the axis of said riser and to maintain said semi-cylindrical body in a predetermined position relative to a spray pattern from said sprinkler head;
 - (c) means for preventing said spray shield apparatus that is attached to said riser from being forcibly tilted into a forwardly oblique position, causing the leading vertical edges of said body to contact a radius of said spray pattern from said sprinkler head thereby interfering with said spray pattern; whereby said spray shield apparatus will effectively capture and contain a misdirected spray from said sprinkler head.
2. The spray shield apparatus as in claim 1, wherein said friction fit means of attaching said spray shield apparatus to said riser comprises:
 - (a) a snap-in attaching hole integrated within said bottom end, substantially circular in shape and of a predetermined diameter to accommodate and to partially encircle said riser;

(b) a gripping aperture located midway along a leading edge of said bottom end, adjacent to and communicating with said snap-in attaching hole, of sufficient width to allow passage of said riser into said snap-in attaching hole and of sufficient narrowness to enable said gripping aperture to maintain a frictional clamping engagement to said riser;
whereby said spray shield apparatus will easily attach to said riser and remain in a firmly affixed position relative to said sprinkler head.

3. The spray shield apparatus as in claim 1, whereby the method of installing said spray shield apparatus onto said riser comprises:

- (a) providing said spray shield apparatus of the type comprising said semi-cylindrical body enclosed with said top end and said bottom end, having said gripping aperture located midway along said leading edge of said bottom end which is adjacent to and communicates with said snap-in attaching hole integrated within said bottom end;
- (b) visually aligning said spray shield apparatus to a desired position relative to said sprinkler head;
- (c) holding said spray shield apparatus so that the plane of said bottom end of said spray shield apparatus is generally perpendicular to the axis of said riser and so that said gripping aperture is adjacent to said riser;
- (d) engaging said riser within said gripping aperture then forcibly pressing said riser laterally through said gripping aperture until fully situated in said snap-in attaching hole;
whereby said spray shield can easily attach to said riser without said removal of said sprinkler head.

4. The spray shield apparatus in claim 1, whereby said means for preventing said spray shield apparatus that is attached to said riser from being forcibly tilted into said forwardly oblique position causing said leading vertical edges of said body to contact and interfere with said radius of said spray pattern comprises:
 - (a) a semi-elliptical shaped orienting shelf protruding from the upper interior portion of said body wherein the leading edge of said orienting shelf is disposed to contact said sprinkler head thereby preventing said forward tilt of said spray shield apparatus and maintaining a distance between said spray shield apparatus and said radius of said spray pattern.
5. The spray shield apparatus as in claim 1, wherein said semi-cylindrical body enclosed with said top and bottom ends and including said orienting shelf is monolithic in form, containing no separate or moving parts.
6. The spray shield apparatus as in claim 1, wherein said semi-cylindrical body enclosed with said top and bottom ends and including said orienting shelf is composed entirely of polyethylene plastic.